



Fayetteville Trail Trekkers

Handbook and Application Form

Fayetteville Parks and Recreation
113 West Mountain St.
Fayetteville, AR 72701
479-444-3471
www.accessfayetteville.org

Introduction and Purpose:

Thank you for your interest in The Fayetteville Trail Trekkers Program, we hope you will enjoy being involved in our community. This Handbook provides information about Fayetteville's Trail system as well as the services provided by volunteers in the Trail Trekkers Program.

Volunteers help to provide users with information on proper trail use and safety, communicate information about the trail conditions to park district staff, and foster positive public interactions along the trails. Trail Trekkers aid appropriate law enforcement by providing a presence on the trails. Trail Trekkers also give information to users, offer maintenance help, alert staff to potential hazards or problems, and relay visitor comments and concerns. The presence of Trail Trekkers on the trails helps to promote a feeling of satisfaction and security among trail users.

Services Provided by Trail Trekker Volunteers:

Trail Trekkers are the eyes and ears of the trails. They should educate trail users. They are NOT law enforcement officials. Should there be a confrontation, they should report rather than solve the problem.

Supply directions, maps and information
 Report and/or perform light trail maintenance
 Assist with first aid needs
 Encourage compliance of trail rules and etiquette
 Assist with minor bicycle repair
 Cooperate with Fayetteville Police Department if the need arises.

Trail Trekkers Volunteers will be supplied with vests for identification purposes, emergency and key contact phone numbers, and maps. It is necessary for each Trail Trekkers volunteer to carry a cell phone.

Requirements:

All Trail Trekkers must meet the following:

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Complete the Trail Trekker volunteer application form.
- Complete Trail Trekker training.
- Exhibit enthusiasm and a sense of responsibility towards the program and trails.
- Be aware of trail and environmental issues.
- Know and follow trail policies and procedures.

Recruitment, Orientation, and Training

The Trail Trekkers Training program will consist of explaining and understanding trail rules and ordinances, watching Trail and Bike Safety videos, basic first aid instruction, and conflict resolution training.

Training sessions will be available on a quarterly basis or as needed. Volunteers must complete all aspects of training and meet with a Trail Trekker Coordinator before beginning as a Trail Trekker.

The Trail Trekkers Coordinators

The Trail Trekkers Coordinators are located in the Parks and Recreation Office: 1455 S. Happy Hollow Rd. The office hours are 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Trail Trekkers Coordinators can discuss any questions or concerns by contacting the Parks and Recreation office at 444.3471

Volunteers will be contacted with further information on training dates and opportunities.

Record Keeping

Immediately after a work session, volunteers are asked to report, via survey, their experiences. This is to ensure that your organization can receive the recognition you deserve, it is essential that Parks and Recreation maintain a record of the amount of time donated by volunteers. This information should be completed within 24 hours of work date.

Safety and Personal Protective Equipment

Trail Trekkers need to be properly dressed and equipped with the proper protective equipment while working. Bikers must wear a helmet. If working a night shift, a flashlight or headlight must be used on non-lit portions of trail.

Trail Trekkers must carry a cell phone at all times.

On-Trail Procedures

Be an ambassador for the Fayetteville multi-use trails.

- Discuss up-coming programs and events.
- Discuss the trails, parks, wildlife, etc.
- Answer questions, and give directions.

Look for trail maintenance needs.

- Fallen trees on trail
- Vandalism/Graffiti
- Obstructions/Hazards

What Should I Report?

- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Assault
- Trail user conflicts, four-wheelers, autos on trails, etc.
- Disorderly conduct
- Murder/Suicide
- Public indecency/Sexual deviant behavior/Rape
- Suspicious vegetation
- Suspicious activity
- Threats
- Vandalism
- If in doubt, report it!

Please report all non-emergency findings at Survey Monkey (link to be sent). If a report is urgent please call or email Parks and Recreation at (479) 444-3471 or parks_and_recreation@fayetteville-ar.gov

To report shift results, please use this link
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FVK6FLT>

Public Interaction

As a Trail Trekker, expect to be questioned about many facets of the City of Fayetteville. You will be representing the Fayetteville Parks and Recreation Department and will be expected to present your parks in a positive light.

Here are some guidelines to increase your effectiveness on the trails:

- **Always identify yourself as an Ambassador of the Trail Trekkers:** We don't want the public to mistake you for law enforcement.
- **Know your resources:** Know where you are on the trails and how to describe your location not only to visitors, but also to the appropriate law enforcement agency in case of emergencies. Use cross street signage, trailheads, bridges, mile markers, waypoints, and other signage on the trails.
- **When on patrol, go slowly, and stop often:** Be approachable. Remember, you are not there solely for exercise but to inform, educate, and assist users in any way you can. Stop, and sit in staging areas, parking lots, and busy trailheads to provide people with as much assistance as possible.
- **Safety hazards:** Large branches that you cannot safely move, loose boards in the bridges, and low hanging hornets nests are all examples of safety hazards that should be taken care of as soon as possible. Contact park district offices. Less serious hazards need not be called in.

Thank you for your interest in our community. We look forward to meeting you and appreciate the generous offer of your time and skills.

Mail or Deliver to:
Fayetteville Parks and Recreation
Trail Trekkers Program
1455 S Happy Hollow Rd
Fayetteville AR 72701
Main Office: (479) 444-3471
Fax: (479) 521.7714
E-mail: parks_and_recreation@fayetteville-ar.gov
Website: www.accessfayetteville.org

Please Print:

Date: _____

Volunteer Name

Address

Organization Name (if applicable)

City, State, Zip

(____) _____ - _____

Phone Number

(____) _____ - _____

Alternate Number

Occupation

E-Mail Address

Emergency Contact

In the event of an emergency contact:

Name

Relationship

Address

Emergency Telephone

Medical

Do you have any medical condition we should be aware of? (i.e.: heart condition, back problems, asthma, allergies, etc.). Specify:

Special Skills, Training, Hobbies & Interest

List any hobbies, training or background which may be applicable:

Availability

During a typical week, how often do you utilize the trail system?

On a regular basis
Mornings
Weekdays

Occasionally
Afternoons
Other _____

Special Events
Weekends

Is there a specific trail you would like to volunteer on?

Briefly explain why you are interested in volunteering with Fayetteville Parks and Recreation:

Do you have specific questions or comments you would like to address?

I certify that the information stated on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and is made in good faith. Any false statements made by me may be used as a rejection of this application.

Signature _____ Date _____

If you have any questions, please call (479) 444-3471.